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Friends of Whitman Music

Supporting the Whitman Middle School Music Program



Friends of Whitman Music News

Key Dates / Events

- **Tuesday, April 2:** NW Regional Orchestra Festival, 7:00 pm
- **Tuesday, April 16:** FOWM Monthly Meeting, 6:30 - 8:30 pm
- **Sunday, April 21:** Goodwill Truck Donation Drive, 9:00 am - 12:00 noon
- **Sunday, May 5:** Mattress Fundraiser at Ballard HS, 10:00 am - 5:00 pm

For a comprehensive calendar of events, click [here for a list](#) or [here for a monthly calendar format](#). For more info, check out the [FOWM website](#).

In this Month's Newsletter (click link to jump):

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Practice-a-Thon Results

Wow! This year's Practice-a-Thon was a smashing success - thanks to our student musicians and the continued generous support from our FOWM community. **Thank you very much!**

Practice-a-Thon winners:

Student musicians who logged the most minutes within their performance

group are:

- 3,200 minutes by Ava (Introductory Orchestra)
- 2,400 minutes by Freya (Concert Band)
- 2,035 minutes by Enzo (Introductory Band)
- 2,000 minutes by Caleb (Intermediate Band)
- 1,400 minutes by Chris (Concert Orchestra)

Ava and Freya will be added to our inaugural "perpetual plaque" as the top practicers within Band and Orchestra this year.

Top 3 average per-person practice minutes logged - by performance group:

1. Concert Orchestra - averaged 467 practice minutes per person
2. Intermediate Band - averaged 408 practice minutes per person
3. Introductory Orchestra - averaged 380 practice minutes per person

Concert Orchestra and Intermediate Band will win a pizza party for being the groups having the highest average per person logged in Band and Orchestra.

Practice-a-Thon results:

Our musicians not only logged a record-setting total of practice minutes (more than 64,000 total), but they also gathered record-setting pledges (more than \$24,000)! As a result of their efforts and the generosity of our FOWM community, we were able to add two new field trips to the schedule for this academic year and to fully fund the Jazz Band program for the 2024-2025 school year.

We appreciate the continued strong support of this community to help the Whitman Middle School Music Program and our student musicians.

Thank you!

Goodwill Donation Truck: Sunday, April 21st
JUST IN TIME FOR YOUR SPRING CLEANING!



**Got stuff to donate? Want an alternative to waiting in line on 8th Ave NW?
Have we got an offer for you!**

On Sunday, April 21, from 9:00 am - 12:00 noon, a Goodwill truck will be parked in the main lot at Whitman Middle School to accept donations of clothing, small household items, and even e-waste: computers, tvs, and monitors (no furniture accepted).

Guidelines: textiles (e.g. clothing) should be donated in bags with nothing else mixed in. Shoes should also be separated out into their own bags and, if possible, pairs secured with rubber-bands. Separating these items ahead of time will save us a lot of work at the event!

Bring your items for donation to not only help our greater Seattle/Ballard community, but to support the Whitman MS Music Program as well, as we can fill up to two trucks to earn funds for the music programs.

Able to help out? Volunteers are needed to help this event run smoothly, so sign up [here](#). We need greeters, sorters, and a traffic controller (6-8 roles total). Many hands make the work light - so come join us to help support our student musicians - and while you're at it, help our local community as well.

Coming in May: Mattress Sale Fundraiser

SAVE BIG. SLEEP GREAT. SUPPORT LOCAL.

Thinking about buying a new mattress?

Jonesing for a new set of sheets?

Need a new pillow?

Then consider purchasing as part of our inaugural Mattress Sale Fundraiser which we are holding in conjunction with the Ballard High School Performing Arts program. The sale is Sunday, May 5th at Ballard High School from 10:00 am - 5:00 pm. Spread the word to family, friends, and neighbors!

Curious to learn more? Join our next FOWM meeting on April 16 at 6:30 pm to hear a short presentation about how this fundraiser works and how you can also help to spread the word in your networks. See the flyer below for more details about the event itself.



Whitman Middle School Music

Sponsored by the Friends of Whitman Music
In Conjunction with Ballard High School Performing Arts Boosters

MATTRESS FUNDRAISER

SAVE BIG. SLEEP GREAT. SUPPORT LOCAL.

Sunday May 5, 2024
10am - 5pm
Ballard High School

- Brand New
- Brand Name
- Made to Order
- All Sizes and Feels
- Financing Available

SAVE the DATE & SPREAD the WORD

MATTRESSES, ADJUSTABLE BASES, LUXURY PILLOWS, SHEETS & MORE

Questions? Text or Call (360) 454-3210

Summer Music Programs

Seeking summer opportunities for your student musician to continue advancing their skills and having fun with music? Our FOWM website lists some great options to explore and consider, so check out the details here:

<https://fowmusic.org/resources/>.

Contact the summer programs directly via the links on that page to get more details about timing, duration, cost, and other information.

Options listed include the Seattle Public Schools Summer Music Program in which Ms. Gunn is teaching as well as other programs which have been shared with us. There is also a general note about finding resources to help defray the financial costs. Take a look!

FOWM Board Recruitment

We are recruiting for 2024-25 FOWM Board positions. Open roles include President, Treasurer, Communications Lead, and more. Join now to shadow an existing Board Member to learn the ropes and help the amazing music programs at Whitman flourish! We're a fun group that is focused on partnering with Ms. Gunn and supporting our Whitman Middle School musicians - there's a role for everyone.

If you're interested in learning more or potentially taking on a Board role, contact us at friendsofwhitmanmiddlemusic@gmail.com.



Whitman Music Program Amazon Wishlist



Whitman music program has a wishlist on Amazon for families that shop there. Purchases will ship directly to Ms. Gunn at Whitman and help students succeed in their music practice!

[Whitman Music Wishlist](#)

About the Friends of Whitman Music

Friends of Whitman Music is a parent-run group that works closely with music staff and school administration to provide support to the Whitman Music program, both financially through fundraising efforts and with coordinating volunteer help throughout the school year.

We meet monthly to check in with Ms. Gunn and discuss opportunities for us to help with various activities and fundraising throughout the year. All are welcome to join at these meetings, which will be held typically once a month.

Email us with any questions friendsofwhitmanmiddlemusic@gmail.com.

[Donate to Whitman Music \(Alliance4Ed acct #11514\)](#)

2023-24 FOWM Committee

Alexis Cruikshank, President

Jan Johnson, Treasurer
Jen Sullivan, Secretary
Lyla Ross, Fundraising Chair
Katie Sachter, Volunteer Coordinator
Todd Vician, Communications Lead
Kevin Emerson, Drumline Representative

Whitman Middle School Music Program Director/Teacher: Ms. Melanie Gunn magunn@seattleschools.org
Jazz Band Teacher: Audrey Stangland

Follow the [Whitman Music Program on Instagram](#)
[Visit the FOWM website](#)

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